

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for inducing movement of an object in contact with a fluid, includes providing a flexible object, and exposing the object to an energy source. The energy source induces a change in the shape of the object, and movement occurs as a result of the change in shape of the object. The flexible object may be a liquid crystal elastomer object. An apparatus for producing work, including a liquid crystalline elastomer capable of changing shape upon exposure to an energy source is also disclosed.

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